determining a route for the transmission of said information based on said query and on information relating to the equipment at said destination.

30. (New) The method according to claim 29, wherein said step of storing characteristics includes the step of storing at least one address for said destination.

31. (New) A method for managing the routing of information to a destination through a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of said networks is a packet network, each network being linked to at least one other network by a communication medium, said method comprising:

receiving a query specifying a destination to which said information will be routed at a routing processor; and

determining a route for the transmission of said information based on said query and, wherein said step of determining includes the step of identifying the subscriber service of said destination.

## REMARKS

### I. Status of the Claims

Claims 2-31 are pending in this application, of which claims 9, 13, 16, 17, 19-22, 26, 29 and 31 are independent.

Claim 16 is objected to for lacking sufficient "antecedent basis."

Claims 3-5, 7-11, 13-14, 16-17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaplan et. al (U.S. 6,141,339).

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Claims 2, 6, 12, 15, and 18 are allowable but objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

## II. <u>Objection To Claim 16</u>

Claim 16 has been objected to for lack of antecedent basis. Applicants have amended claim 16 by replacing the term "The method for. . ." with "A method for . . ." Applicants believe that with this amendment the objection has been overcome, and therefore respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn. Applicant submit that this amendment does not narrow the scope of claim 16.

## III. <u>Objections to Claims 2, 6, 12, 15, and 18</u>

The examiner has objected to claims 2, 6, 12, 15, and 18 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner further noted that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." Applicants have amended each of these claims to be an independent claim which includes all of the limitations of the base claim from which it previously depended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the objection be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed. Applicants further submit that given that these claims incorporate the limitations of the parent claim(s), that none of these amendments narrows the scope of any of these claims.

## IV. <u>Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)</u>

**Claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 10-11 and 13-14**

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The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 13, 14, 16, 17, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaplan et. al. Claim 1 has been cancelled. Applicants have amended dependent claims 3-5, 7-8, 10-11 and 14 to depend from claims 2, 6, 12, 15, and 18. As described above, claims 2, 6, 12, 15, and 18 as amended are independent claims which Applicants believe to be in condition for allowance. Therefore, claims 3-5, 7-8, 10-11 and 14 which depend therefrom are believed to be allowable as well.

**Claims 9, 13, 16-17 and 19**

Applicants have amended independent claim 9 to include the element – "wherein said received characteristics include information relating to the equipment at said destination." A similar element has been added to independent claims 13, 16-17, and 19. Applicants respectfully submit that Kaplan fails to disclose, teach or suggest that a characteristic of the destination include information relating to the equipment of the destination. Accordingly, Applicants believe that claims 9, 13, 16-17 and 19 as amended are allowable over the cited art.

**New Claims 20-31**

Applicants have added independent claims 20, 21, 22, 26, 29, and 31. Claim 20 contains the matter of claim 16 as originally filed with the addition of an element similar to that which was included in claim 6 – "wherein a characteristic of said destination includes information identifying the service to which said destination subscribes." In a like manner, claim 21 contains the matter of claim 19 as originally filed with the addition of an element similar to that was included in claim 6. Similarly, claims 26 and 31 include that the route determination take into account information identifying the service to which the destination subscribes. The

Examiner has indicated that "Kaplan et al. fail to teach that a characteristic of said destination includes information identifying the service/type of service to which said destination subscribes." Accordingly, Applicants believe that claims 20, 21, 26, and 31 are allowable over the cited art. As claims 27 and 28 depend from claim 26, these claims are thought to be allowable as well.

New claims 22 and 29 include the aspect that route determination take into account information relating to the equipment at the destination. As noted above, Kaplan fails to disclose, teach or suggest this aspect. Accordingly, Applicants believe that 22 and 29 are allowable over the cited art. As claims 23-25 and 30 depend therefrom, these claims are thought to be allowable as well.

## V.    <u>Request for Reconsideration</u>

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims of this application are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection and allowance is requested. If a conference would assist in placing this application in better condition for allowance, the undersigned would appreciate a telephone call at the number indicated.

## VI.    <u>Authorization</u>

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may

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be required for this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 2455-4490.

Respectfully submitted,
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2. (Amended) [The system according to claim 1] <u>A system for managing the routing of</u>

<u>information from a source to a destination through a plurality of networks, wherein at least one</u>

<u>of said networks is a packet network, said system comprising:</u>

> <u>a routing processor for receiving a query signal from said source, said signal</u>
> <u>specifying said destination to which said information will be routed; and</u>

> <u>a memory for storing at least one characteristic of said source; said memory</u>
> <u>storing at least one characteristic of said destination;</u>

> <u>wherein said processor determines a route for the transmission of said information</u>
> <u>based on said query signal and on said characteristics stored in said memory,</u> wherein a

characteristic of said destination includes information relating to the equipment at said

destination.

3. (Amended) The system according to claim [1] <u>2</u>, wherein said source subscribes to a fixed

wireless service network.

4. (Amended) The system according to claim 3, wherein said destination subscribes to the same

fixed wireless service network as said source.

5. (Amended) The system according to claim 3, wherein said destination subscribes to a PSTN

service network.

6. (Amended) [The system according to claim 1] <u>A system for managing the routing of information from a source to a destination through a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of said networks is a packet network, said system comprising:</u>

<u>a routing processor for receiving a query signal from said source, said signal specifying said destination to which said information will be routed; and</u>

<u>a memory for storing at least one characteristic of said source; said memory storing at least one characteristic of said destination;</u>

<u>wherein said processor determines a route for the transmission of said information based on said query signal and on said characteristics stored in said memory</u>, wherein a characteristic of said destination includes information identifying the service to which said destination subscribes.

7. (Amended) The system according to claim [1] <u>6</u>, wherein said information includes digitized voice information.

8. (Amended) The system according to claim [1] <u>6</u>, wherein said signal is a DTMF signal.

9. (Amended) A system for routing information to a destination, said system comprising:

a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of said networks is a packet network and wherein each network is linked to at least one other network by a communication medium; and

a routing processor for receiving a [routing] query signal, said [routing] query signal, including at least one characteristic of said destination, said routing processor determining a transmission path for routing said information through said plurality of networks;

wherein said routing processor determines said transmission path based on said query signal and on said received characteristics<u>, wherein said received characteristics include information relating to the equipment at said destination</u>.

10. (Amended)    The system according to claim [9] <u>12</u>, wherein said destination subscribes to a fixed wireless service network.

11. (Amended)    The system according to claim [9] <u>12</u>, wherein said destination subscribes to a PSTN service network.

12. (Amended)    [The system according to claim 9] <u>A system for routing information to a destination, said system comprising:</u>

<u>a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of said networks is a packet network and wherein each network is linked to at least one other network by a communication medium; and</u>

<u>a routing processor for receiving a query signal, said query signal including at least one characteristic of said destination, said routing processor determining a transmission path for routing said information through said plurality of networks;</u>

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wherein said routing processor determines said transmission path based on said query signal and on said received characteristics, wherein said characteristics of said destination identify the type of service to which said destination subscribes.

13. (Amended)    A method for managing the routing of information to a destination through a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of said networks is a packet network, each network being linked to at least one other network by a communication medium, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a [routing] query specifying a destination to which said information will be routed at a routing processor;

storing at least one characteristic of said destination; and

determining a route for the transmission of said information based on said [routing] query and on said stored characteristics, wherein said stored characteristics include information relating to the equipment at said destination.

14. (Amended)    The method according to claim [13] 15, wherein said step of storing characteristics includes the step of storing at least one address for said destination.

15. (Amended)    [The method of claim 13] A method for managing the routing of information to a destination through a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of said networks is a packet network, each network being linked to at least one other network by a communication medium, said method comprising the steps of:

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<u>receiving a query specifying a destination to which said information will be</u>

<u>routed at a routing processor;</u>

<u>storing at least one characteristic of said destination; and</u>

<u>determining a route for the transmission of said information based on said query</u>

<u>and on said stored characteristics</u>, wherein said step of determining includes the step of

identifying the subscriber service of said destination.

16. (Amended)        [The] <u>A</u> method for managing the routing of information to a destination

through a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of the networks is a packet network and

wherein each network is linked to at least one other network by a communication medium, said

method comprising the steps of:

receiving a [routing] query signal from a source of one of said networks and

information concerning at least one characteristic of said destination; and

determining a transmission path for routing said information through said

networks, said transmission path comprising at least one network in addition to said packet

network, wherein said step of determining is based on said received [routing] query signal and on

said received characteristics<u>, wherein said characteristics include information relating to the</u>

<u>equipment at said destination.</u>

17. (Amended)        A method for managing the routing of information to a destination through

a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of the networks is a packet network and wherein

each network is linked to at least one other network by a communication medium, said method

comprising the steps of:

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receiving a [routing] query signal including routing requirements from a source;

and

determining a transmission path for routing said information through said networks, wherein said transmission path comprises network elements of at least one of said networks in addition to network elements of said packet network, wherein said step of determining a transmission path includes the step of identifying the equipment at said destination.

18. (Amended)    [The method according to claim 17] A method for managing the routing of information to a destination through a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of the networks is a packet network and wherein each network is linked to at least one other network by a communication medium, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a query signal including routing requirements from a source; and

determining a transmission path for routing said information through said networks, wherein said transmission path comprises network elements of at least one of said networks in addition to network elements of said packet network, wherein said step of determining a transmission path includes the step of identifying the subscriber service of said destination.

19. (Amended)    A method for managing the routing of information from a subscriber of a fixed wireless service network to a destination through a plurality of networks, wherein at least one of said networks is a packet network and wherein each network is linked to at least one other network by a communication medium, said method comprising the steps of:

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receiving a query signal from said subscriber of said fixed wireless service network;

storing information concerning at least one characteristic of said destination at a routing processor;

determining a transmission path for routing said information through said networks, said transmission path comprising elements of at least one of said networks in addition to elements of said packet network, wherein said step of determining said transmission path is based on said query and said stored characteristics, <u>wherein said characteristics include information relating to the equipment at said destination</u>;

[sending a routing response signal from said routing processor to said subscriber;] and

routing said information over said path.

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